



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of New Hampshire*

*Federal Building
55 Pleasant Street, Room 352
Concord, New Hampshire 03301*

603/225-1552

MEDIA RELEASE
For Immediate Release
Tuesday, October 5, 2004

Contact: Thomas P. Colantuono
United States Attorney
Alfred Rubega
Assistant U.S. Attorney
(603) 225-1552

WOMAN SENTENCED ON CREDIT CARD FRAUD CHARGES

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – United States Attorney Tom Colantuono and Belknap County Sheriff Dan Collis announce that TERESA C. MAURO, 40, of Honesdale, PA, was sentenced in U.S. District Court, to time already served in custody. On July 12, 2004, MAURO pleaded guilty to a two-count indictment charging her with Fraud in Connection with Identity Documents and Misuse of a Social Security number. MAURO has been in custody since June 10, 2004. Her total period of imprisonment was 111 days.

MAURO admitted to using someone else's name and Social Security number in order to fraudulently obtain and use credit cards from May of 2000 through April of 2003. The case resulted from an extensive investigation by the Belknap County Sheriff's Department and the Honesdale Police Department, Honesdale, Pennsylvania.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono stated: "The illegal use of identifying information, particularly Social Security numbers, is increasing dramatically. Accordingly, this office is dedicating federal prosecutorial resources to address the increase in this serious crime. Identity theft imposes significant costs on the person who has his or her identity compromised and on the institutions that are affected by the perpetrators of these crimes. This office will work with local, state and federal law enforcement officials in combating this new threat to our citizens. I commend the Belknap County Sheriffs Department and the Honesdale, Pennsylvania Police Department for the professional effort they exerted in cooperating to resolve this case."

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U. S. Attorney Al Rubega.